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Hon. Vernon A. Williams
Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street
Washington, DC 34527

Re: Finance Docket Number 34527

Dear Chairman Williams:

It is our understanding that the STB is to issue a decision on the request by the Maumee and Western Railroad for re-installation of the CSXT/MAW diamond crossing in Defiance, Ohio as indicated in the above docket number.

We are served by the Maumee and Western in Okolona, Ohio and bring rail cars of raw materials for our mill from the south and north using various origin carriers. Unfortunately, the only way the MAW can receive our cars is from the CSXT at Defiance. This necessitates that we use the CSXT exclusively to the MAW, preventing us from having competitive rates previously available when the MAW could cross over the CSXT to reach the Norfolk Southern.

With the high cost of fuel and transportation, it is imperative we have as much rail competition as possible. The Defiance CSXT/MAW crossing will return this competition to the marketplace, an extremely important cost factor for our company.

Please advise when we can expect your decision directing the CSXT to re-instate the Defiance crossing so we can again have rail competition.

Sincerely,

Dick Lange
Plant Manager

cc: Phil Randall, MAW
Hon. Lynn Wachtmann
Hon. James Hoops
Hon. Mike DeWine
Hon. G Voinovich